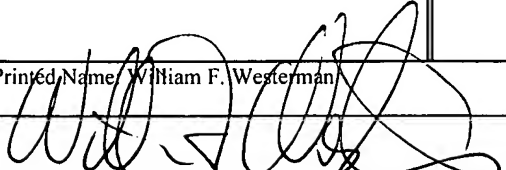


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		DATE: February 23, 2006
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. Application No. (if known): 10/569226
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP2005/014657	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: August 10, 2005	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED: August 10, 2004
TITLE OF INVENTION: CASK BUFFER BODY		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: Hiroki TAMAKI, Yuichi SAITO, Kiminobu HOJO, Tadashi KIMURA, Hiroshi SHIMIZU, and Akio KITADA		
Applicant hereby submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). 		
ITEMS 11. TO 20. BELOW CONCERN OTHER DOCUMENT(S) OR INFORMATION INCLUDED:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 together with the international search report, PTO/SB/08 and 8 references. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. ASSIGNEE NAME AND ADDRESS: Please publish the assignee data with the application. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. 1.76 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: 35 sheets of Drawings. 		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known) 10/569226		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2005/014657		DATE: February 23, 2006	
The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic National Stage Fee \$300 22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Examination Fee If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100 All other situations \$200 23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Stage Search Fee Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority \$100 International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office \$400 All other situations \$500 ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$ 300.00 \$ 200.00 \$ 400.00 \$ 900.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$ 130.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
TOTAL	36 - 20 =	16	X \$ 50.00	\$800.00	
INDEPENDENT	1 - 3 =		X \$ 200.00		
Multiple dependent claims(s) (if applicable)				+ \$360.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$1,830.00	
National-Stage Application Size Fee-for each additional 50 sheets that exceeds 100 sheets \$ 250.00.				\$ 250.00	
Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).					
SUBTOTAL =				\$2,080.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). +					
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$2,080.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +					
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$2,080.00	
				Amount to be:	
				refunded	\$
				charged	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$2,080.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. (\$300.00 for basic national stage fee; \$400.00 for national stage search fee; \$200.00 for national stage examination fee; \$130.00 for late filing of Declaration; \$800.00 for 16 extra claims exceeding 20; and \$250.00 for 4 additional sheets exceeding 100). b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-2866 in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2866. NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed to request that the application be restored to pending status.					
Send All Correspondence To:			WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 CUSTOMER NO. 38834		
Typed or Printed Name: William F. Westerman			Reg. No.: 29,988		
Signature: 			Date: February 23, 2006		